United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of Solid Waste
and Emergency Response
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⚘EPA
CEPP◗●

LandView™ III

FACTSHEET

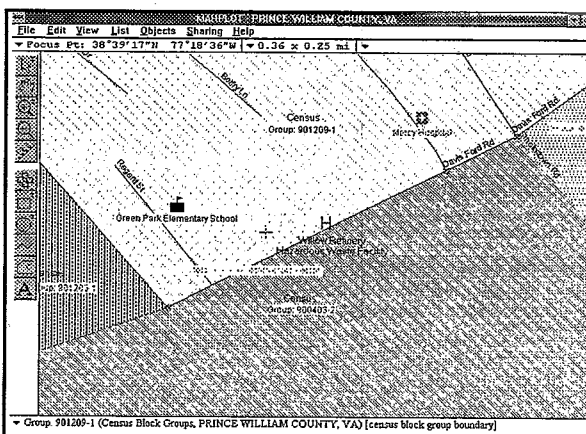L andView™ III is an innovative "Community Right-To-Know" software tool and the most recent in a series of electronic tools developed by EPA's Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO). It enhances community-based environmental protection by placing a wealth of important environmental information at the fingertips of local decisionmakers and the public. LandView™ III provides database extracts from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Bureau of Census, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Department of Transportation, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. These databases are presented in a geographic context on maps that contain jurisdictional boundaries, detailed networks of roads, rivers, and railroads, census block group and tract polygons, schools, hospitals, churches, cemeteries, airports, dams, and other landmark features. LandView software performs display, query, and analysis of maps and data.

ORIGIN

The need for LandView originated during the Midwest Floods of 1995. Nine states were severely affected and EPA recognized the need for an easy-to-use tool to visualize and identify hazardous chemical sites and other facilities from each of the major regulatory databases.

LandView™ III grows out of an ongoing joint venture among EPA, Bureau of the Census, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a software tool to assist in planning for and responding to chemical accidents.

LandView is unique in many important ways from other geographic information systems (GIS):

The most comprehensive source of federal data currently available in one package.

User-friendly - No formal training required to operate.

HELP screens and electronic tutorial provided.

CD-ROM version is less expensive than other GIS packages.

Download at no cost from the Internet.

The software has been developed in partnership with EPA offices and other federal data providers.

You can customize the software to fit your own data needs.

The software and data are in the public domain and can be copied and distributed freely.

The software in LandView is an adaptation of MARPLOT®, a mapping component of the CAMEO® system (Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations).   The Bureau of Census needed to display a detailed network of the country's physical features (TIGER/Line files) and related demographic information. Census's collaboration with EPA and NOAA resulted in LandView I. LandView III is a continuation of this collaboration and is being released as a Windows and Macintosh version with an expanded set of EPA and federal databases.

What's In LandView?

LandView contains the following information for the entire United States, its territories, and Puerto Rico.

- Air quality information and point sources for pollutants identified through the Clean Air Act taken from the Aerometric Information Retrieval System (AIRS);

- Information on the treatment, storage, and disposal facilities and major generators of hazardous waste taken from the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Biennial Reporting System (BRS);

- The National Priority List and other sites taken from the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS);

- Facilities holding NPDES permits for discharging wastewater under the Clean Water Act taken from the Permit Compliance System (PCS); and

- Facilities reporting yearly estimates of emissions to air, water, and land for over 300 toxic chemicals taken from the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI).

New In LandView III

The new datasets in LandView III include:

- An index of watershed indicators (EPA Office of Water (OW));

- Air pollution non-attainment areas (EPA Office of Air Quality Planning, and Standards (OAQPS));

- Schools, religious institutions, cemeteries, hospitals (US Geological Survey (USGS));

- Dams (US Army Corps of Engineers);

- Nuclear Sites (Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC));

- Airports and runways (US Department of Transportation (DOT));

- Canada and Mexico boundaries and major roads;

- Expanded Bureau of Census data on income, poverty, education, housing.

Jurisdictional Boundaries

States
Counties
Minor Civil Divisions (for 20 states)
Cities
Census Tracts
Block Groups
Congressional Districts
Indian Lands
Metropolitan Areas

Neighborhood Maps

Major Highways
Local Streets
Rivers, Lakes, Shorelines
Railroads
Schools
Religious Institutions
Hospitals
Cemeteries
Airports
Dams
Environmental Sites

Demographic Statistics

Total Population
Population by Age
Population by Race
Income
Housing
Education

Environmental Data

Air Emissions
Wastewater Discharges
Toxic Release Inventory
Hazardous Waste
Superfund Sites
Nuclear Sites
Watershed Assessment
Air Quality Monitoring

Thematic Mapping

Shows Census boundaries, EPA sites, or other map features, in various colors and patterns based on database attributes

LandView III: Now Even Easier to Use

LandView is designed to be a self-taught, easy-to-use system on standard IBM-compatible or Macintosh PCs with a CD-ROM reader and VGA color graphics. The new interface is more user-friendly and allows for more powerful query functions. HELP screens are available on the system along with an electronic user's manual to help new users get started.

LandView III makes it easier to import new sets of information. LandView III can use dBase/Foxpro database files, as long as the file has fields for latitude and longitude.

Availability:

LandView III is available on CD-ROM from the Bureau of Census. Questions about purchasing LandView III or Census data should be directed to:

Bureau of Census   (301) 457-4100
Census webpage: **www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger**

Users can download (via the Internet) the software and one county of information from RTKNet[1] **http://rtk.net/landview**

Contacts:

For questions about LandView III, the EPA databases in LandView and emergency planning regulations, please contact:

Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Hotline:
Monday through Friday - 9 am to 6 pm EST
(800) 424-9346
(703) 412-9810
(800) 535-7672 TDD

For more information on the emergency planning, preparedness, and prevention programs mentioned in this factsheet, please visit the CEPPO website at:
http://www.epa.gov/ceppo

Current LandView Applications

Community Right-To-Know
LandView III is now the most simple and rapid way to locate and identify important environmental information on potential risk in a community. Pollutant information and contact information is provided in addition to facility or site locations.

Emergency Planning
With the release of LandView III, an expanded set of information is now available to planners as they work to identify the potential hazards in their communities.

Risk Management Plans
Beginning in 1999, certain facilities will be required to submit risk management plans that characterize the potential hazards posed by chemicals stored and used in local facilities. LandView III will assist facilities in identifying their site locations and potentially vulnerable populations. Members of the local community can use LandView III to better understand the information that will be made available in facility risk management plans.
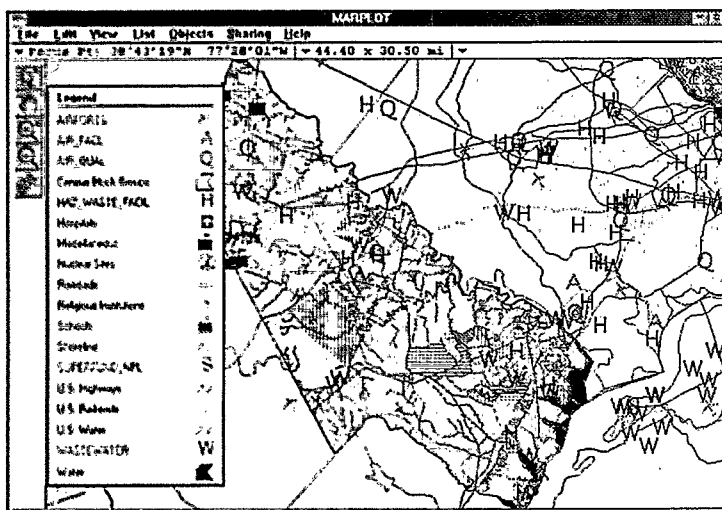
Environmental Justice
By combining EPA-regulated site information with Census demographic information, LandView III is a useful tool to examine the relationship of environmental sites to different populations based on income, race, and other demographic features.
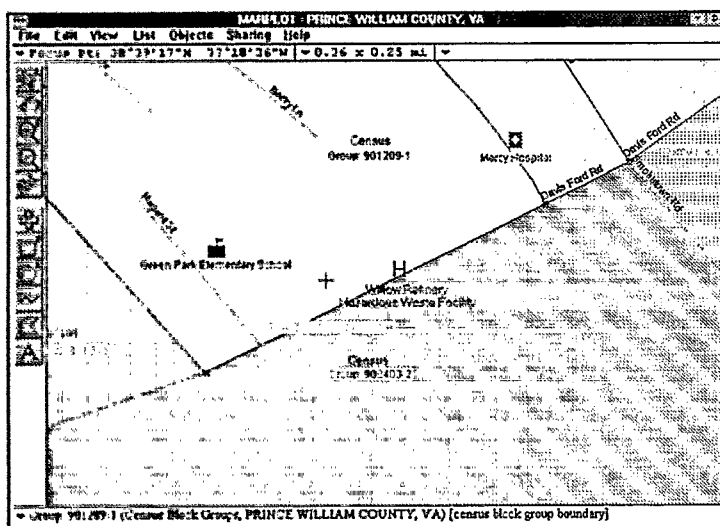
Brownfields
LandView III has been provided to over 100 Brownfields Pilot Projects across the country to assist community planners in redeveloping underutilized industrial and commercial sites with potential environmental contamination.

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[1] RTKNet (The Right-To-Know Network) is an independent, non-profit organization—not part of the Environmental Protection Agency.
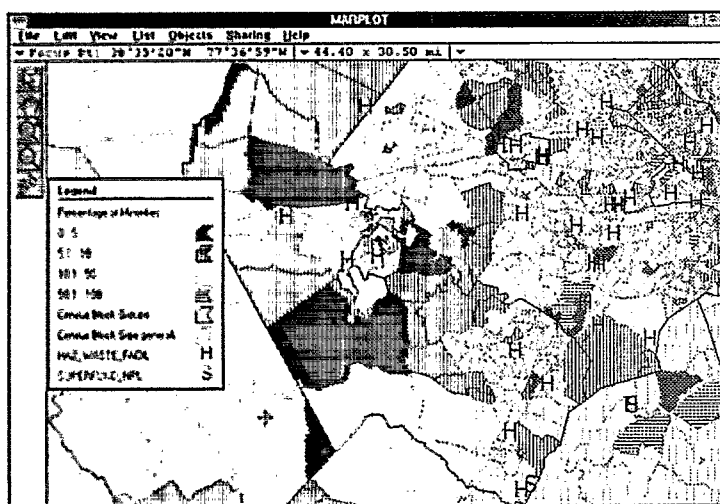
Other Landview Maps

LandView III has the capacity to display multiple layers of information to help emergency planners understand where environmentally significant facilities are located in relation to the different parts of an area. In this picture, Prince William County, Virginia is displayed with different "layers" of information such as airports, Superfund sites (S), wastewater discharge facilities (W), hospitals, major roads, and many others. Depending on the emergency planner's needs, he or she can choose to display layers pertinent to their planning and response work and then zoom in on the map to view more details.

If a spill or accident should occur at a hazardous waste facility, emergency responders must be prepared to initiate emergency procedures and evacuate workers at the facility. In this picture, LandView III displays a zoomed-in section of Prince William County, Virginia, and the Willow Refinery, which is a hazardous waste facility. LandView III provides emergency planners with a map of this facility and its surrounding features such as the elementary school and hospital nearby. With this information in hand, emergency planners can plan for possible evacuation at the elementary school and any other potentially affected areas, and they could also identify that a nearby hospital may be available in an emergency or might be affected.

Emergency planners can also use LandView III to learn about the demographics (such as age, income, minority population) of a particular area and display the results on a map. For example, emergency planners can use Census data by correlating demographic statistics from census block groups with the locations of environmentally significant facilities. In this picture, emergency planners can show how the hazardous waste facilities (H) and Superfund sites (S) are situated in relation to the minority (non-white) populations in Prince William County.